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August 20, 2004

VIA FACSIMILE

To: Examiner Uchendu O. Anyaso
Group Art Unit No. 2675
U.S.P.T.O.

Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306

From: James N. Dresser

Facsimile No.: (703) 761-2375 or 76

Re: Enclosed Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
and Petition and Fee for One-Month Extension of Time
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/053,739
Our Reference: KUD.052

Dear Examiner Anyaso:

Enclosed is a Request for Reconsideration of Final Rejection, which is responsive to the April 21, 2004 Office Action, which should place the above-referenced case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,


James N. Dresser

JND/kks
Enclosure

Total No. of Pages Transmitted: 10

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Masaaki Nishino

Serial No.: 10/053,739

Group Art Unit: 2675

Filed: January 24, 2002

Examiner: Anyaso, Uchendu O.

For: COMPUTER SYSTEM WITH OPTICAL POINTING DEVICE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
BOX AF

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the final rejection set forth in the Office Action of April 21, 2004 are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

THE FINAL REJECTION

Claims 1-9, 12-14, 16-19 and 21-23 are pending in this application. The Office Action finally rejects all of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Fan, United States Patent No. 5,926,168 in view of Hashimoto, United States Patent No. 5,554,980.

TYPICAL PRIOR ART

Typical of the prior art is a mouse or a track ball which causes movement of the cursor simply by movement of the mouse on a surface or rotation of the ball. Only one action is required. Once the cursor is positioned, an item at that location can be selected by actuation of a "left click" or "right click" button on the mouse or track ball.

Serial No. 10/053,739
Docket No. 01USFP710-K.N.

THE CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention is a computer system (claims 1-9, 12-14 and 23), a method of operating a computer system (claims 16-19 and 21), and a method for indicating a position on a display screen (claim 22). In each of the claims, movement of a cursor 13 on a display screen 7 requires substantially simultaneous or concurrent (1) actuation of a position indicating button 4, and (2) outputting of a position indication allowing signal B. That is, two concurrent things are necessary to move the cursor 13 to a specified position 8 on the display screen 7.

In preferred embodiments, actuation of the position indicating button causes a beam of light 3a to contact the display screen 7, and the position indication allowing signal B causes the cursor 13 to move to the position 8 on the display screen at which the beam of light is contacting the screen.

In some embodiments of the claimed invention, once the cursor is positioned on the display screen, an item can be selected by actuation of a click button 5, 6.

THE FAN REFERENCE

Fan discloses a remote pointer for interactive televisions or computers. The pointer 40 has a select button 41 which causes emission of a beam of light 120. The location 130 at which the light beam 120 contacts the display screen 20 of the television or computer 30 is sensed, and the cursor 10 is moved there. As with the prior art mouse or track ball, only one action is required to move the cursor.

Some embodiments in Fan also include a second button which can be actuated to select an item at which the cursor is positioned.